



(12) **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

(88) Date of publication A3:  
**03.10.2012 Bulletin 2012/40**

(51) Int Cl.:  
**H04L 12/24** (2006.01) **H04M 3/533** (2006.01)  
**H04M 3/24** (2006.01) **H04M 7/00** (2006.01)

(43) Date of publication A2:  
**23.06.2010 Bulletin 2010/25**

(21) Application number: **10003444.6**

(22) Date of filing: **30.06.2005**

(84) Designated Contracting States:  
**AT BE BG CH CY CZ DE DK EE ES FI FR GB GR HU IE IS IT LI LT LU MC NL PL PT RO SE SI SK TR**  
Designated Extension States:  
**AL BA HR LV MK YU**

(30) Priority: **30.06.2004 US 584070 P**  
**29.06.2005 US 170459**

(62) Document number(s) of the earlier application(s) in accordance with Art. 76 EPC:  
**05767261.0 / 1 766 948**

(71) Applicant: **GLENAYRE ELECTRONICS, INC.**  
**Duluth, GA 30097 (US)**

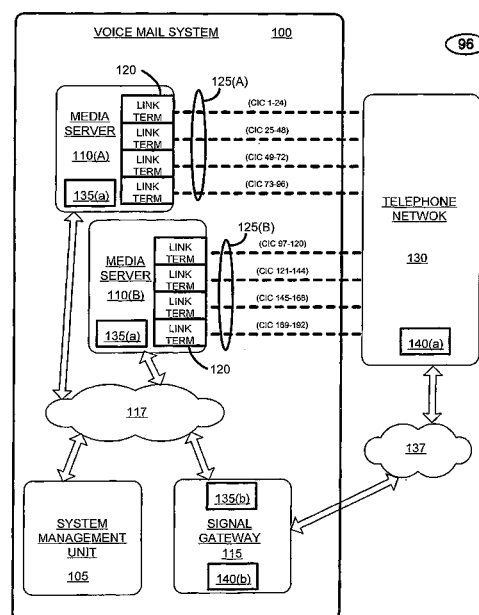
(72) Inventors:  
• **Bettis, Sonny R.**  
**Georgia 30043 (US)**

• **Plotky, Jon S.**  
**Atlanta**  
**Georgia 30329 (US)**  
• **Lowman, Philip L.**  
**Ellijay**  
**Georgia 30540 (US)**  
• **Spencer, James H.**  
**Tucker**  
**Georgia 30084 (US)**  
• **Moraes, Ian M.**  
**Suwanee**  
**Georgia 30024 (US)**

(74) Representative: **Charig, Raymond Julian**  
**Potter Clarkson LLP**  
**Park View House**  
**58 The Ropewalk**  
**Nottingham**  
**NG1 5DD (GB)**

(54) **Auto block and auto discovery in a distributed communication**

(57) A voicemail system enabling various components of the voicemail system to be distributed geographically yet operate as a seamlessly integrated system is disclosed. A signal gateway interfaces with a telephone network. In addition, one or more media servers interface with the signal gateway as well as the telephone network. The signal gateway is configured to block calls to malfunctioning media servers. The signal gateway monitors the media servers, and responsive to determining that a media server has malfunctioned, the signal gateway initiates auto-blocking such that the telephone network does not route calls to the malfunctioning media server. In addition, the signal gateway is configured to auto-detect a media server responsive to the media server being initialized. The voicemail system can include a variety of other elements, such as one or more system management units and one or more central data and message store systems. Each of the elements in the voicemail system communicate with each other over an internet protocol type network. Any functions in the various elements that require interfacing with the telephone network are simply handled through the signal gateway.



**FIG. 1**



## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 10 00 3444

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
X	WO 01/78362 A (ERICSSON TELEFON AB L M [SE]) 18 October 2001 (2001-10-18) * abstract * * page 2, line 29 - page 3, line 17 * * page 4, line 1 - page 5, line 31 * * page 6, line 16 - page 7, line 29 * * figures 1,2 * -----	1-13	INV. H04L12/24 H04M3/533 H04M3/24  ADD. H04M7/00
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)  H04M H04L
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search <b>The Hague</b>		Date of completion of the search <b>24 August 2012</b>	Examiner <b>Molinari, Fausto</b>
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons ..... & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	

1  
EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04C01)

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT  
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 10 00 3444

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.  
The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on  
The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

24-08-2012

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 0178362 A	18-10-2001	AU 4700901 A	23-10-2001
		EP 1269733 A1	02-01-2003
		US 2001036256 A1	01-11-2001
		WO 0178362 A1	18-10-2001
-----			

EPO FORM P0459

For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82